# LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS

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## FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

**LS 7611 NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 17, 2007

BILL NUMBER: SB 573 BILL AMENDED:

**SUBJECT:** Seizure of Inmate Trust Funds.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Steele BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: GENERAL IMPACT: State

X DEDICATED FEDERAL

### **Summary of Legislation:** This bill has the following provisions:

- A. It permits the Department of Correction (DOC) to seize money in an inmate's account that is derived from illegal or fraudulent activity.
- B. It provides that money obtained through a fraudulent or illegal act shall be returned to the person against whom the fraudulent or illegal act was committed.
- C. It requires the Department of Correction to deposit the money in the Violent Crime Victim's Compensation Fund if the department is unable to return the money to that person within 180 days.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

#### **Explanation of State Expenditures:**

<u>Explanation of State Revenues:</u> Under current law, DOC can only seize any illegally obtained funds that are in prisoners' accounts through criminal prosecution. As proposed, DOC would be able to take administrative measures to seize any monies.

If DOC discovers the identity of the person from whom the offender illegally obtained the money, DOC will return the money to the victim. If the person cannot be found, DOC will deposit the money in the Violent Crime Victims Compensation Fund.

#### **Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

#### **Explanation of Local Revenues:**

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<u>State Agencies Affected:</u> Department of Correction.

**Local Agencies Affected:** 

**Information Sources:** Tim Brown, Department of Correction.

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